

§ 351.3 Registration and issue.

(a) *Registration.* Bonds may be registered as set forth in subpart B of 31 CFR part 353, also published as Department of the Treasury Circular, Public Debt Series No. 3-80.

(b) *Validity of issue.* A bond is validly issued when it (1) is registered as provided in Circular No. 3-80, and (2) bears an issue date, as well as the validation indicia of an authorized issuing agent.

(c) *Taxpayer identifying number.* The inscription of a bond must include the taxpayer identifying number of the owner or first-named coowner. The taxpayer identifying number of the second-named coowner or beneficiary is not required but its inclusion is desirable. If the bond is being purchased as a gift or award and the owner's taxpayer identifying number is not known, the taxpayer identifying number of the purchaser must be included in the inscription on the bond.

(d) *Restrictions on chain letters.* The issuance of bonds in the furtherance of a chain letter or pyramid scheme is considered to be against the public interest and is prohibited. An issuing agent is authorized to refuse to issue a bond if there is reason to believe that a purchase is in connection with a chain letter and the agent's decision is final.

[55 FR 567, Jan. 5, 1990, as amended at 57 FR 14285, Apr. 17, 1992]

§ 351.4 Limitation on purchases.

The amount of Series EE bonds which may be purchased in the name of any one person, in any one calendar year, is limited to \$30,000 (face amount). Subpart C of Circular No. 3-80 (31 CFR part 353) contains the rules governing the computation of amounts and the special limitation for employee plans.

§ 351.5 Purchase of bonds.

(a) *Payroll plans.* Bonds in \$100 and higher denominations may be purchased through deductions from the pay of employees of organizations that maintain payroll savings plans. The bonds must be issued by an authorized issuing agent.

(b) *Over-the-counter/mail—(1) Through financial institutions.* Bonds registered

in the names of individuals in their own right may be purchased through any financial institution, *i.e.*, bank, savings association, etc., qualified as an issuing agent. In most instances, the issuing agent will forward purchase applications to Federal Reserve Banks (see § 351.12) for processing and bond issuance.

(2) *Remittance.* The application for purchase of a bond must be accompanied by the remittance to cover the issue price. Checks or other forms of exchange will be accepted subject to collection. Checks payable by endorsement are not acceptable. (For requirements relating to the remittance of sales proceeds by issuing agents, see Item 4, subpart A, in the appendix to 31 CFR part 317).

(c) *Bond-a-month plan.* A depositor of a financial institution qualified as an issuing agent may purchase bonds through a system of regular monthly withdrawals from the depositor's account.

(d) *Employee thrift, savings, vacation, and similar plans.* Bonds registered in the names of trustees of employee plans may be purchased in book-entry form in \$100 multiples through an authorized Federal Reserve Bank after Bureau of the Public Debt approval of the plan as eligible for the special limitation under 31 CFR 353.13, also published as section 353.13 of Department of the Treasury Circular, Public Debt Series No. 3-80.

[55 FR 567, Jan. 5, 1990, as amended at 57 FR 14285, Apr. 17, 1992; 59 FR 10540, Mar. 4, 1994]

§ 351.6 Delivery of bonds.

Issuing agents are authorized to arrange for the delivery of Series EE bonds. Mail deliveries are made at the risk and expense of the United States to the address given by the purchaser, if it is within the United States, its territories or possessions, or the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. No mail deliveries elsewhere will be made, except to residents of Mexico and Canada, who participate in payroll saving plans, and to residents of what was formerly the Panama Canal Zone. Bonds purchased by a citizen of the United States residing abroad will be delivered only to such address in the United States as the purchaser directs.